# Tennessee Motorcyclist



242 West Main St. #195, Hendersonville, TN 37075 \* info@cmtabate.com 615-566-9936

May 2021

#### SMITH WILSON/STONES RIVER

### CMT ABATE CHARTER INVITE YOU TO

#### OUR FIRST ANNUAL BROOM STICK BROOM TOURNAMENT, CHILI COOKOFF AND BIKE SHOW

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021

Helenbak Bar & Grill

1960 Murfreesboro Road, Lebanon, TN (4 Mile Hill)





Registration for Pool Tournament and Bike Show at 1 PM. This is our 1st Annual Broomstick Pool Tournament and Chili Cook-Off. \$5 per person for pool tournament. \$5 per person for taste testing best chili. No entry fee to enter chili. Prize determined by number of entries Also \$5.00 per entry for Bike Show. Public invited to join in the fun!!!

For more info contact Kim Marlin at 615-310-3436 or kimmorbs1@gmail.com

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#### Contacts Corporate Level Phone: 615-566-9936

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Corporate Treasurer	Bette Stewart	615-579-6035	cmtabatetreasurer@gmail.com
Legislative	Paul Gordon	615-243-1581	paulgordon127@yahoo.com
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At Large			_
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Newspaper	Shannon R. Gregory	615-479-2684	keeblersg@yahoo.com
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Products			
Safety & Education	Carol Simpson	615-944-9797	csfreedom@aol.com
Sergeant at Arms	Bullet	615-758-8267	

The objects and purposes of the Corporation shall be to form a united motorcyclist's organization both at the individual local level and at the State level. The Members of the Corporation shall be dedicated to promoting fair motorcycle legislation and shall ensure their freedom by working to prevent enactment of, or to repeal/modify existing unfair motorcycle legislation. The Corporation's Members shall promote and maintain motorcycling safety and awareness programs in the community.

Charter	Contacts	Meeting Times
Caney Fork	Terry Presley 615-642-8025 presley7290@yahoo.com	Last Sunday of the month @ 4 pm, 107 N Fairview Ave., Gordonsville,
Dickson/Humphreys/ Hickman	Terry "Bub" Davis 615-969-3673 terrybubdavis@yahoo.com	3rd Thursday @ 7, VFW Dickson
Montgomery County	Roy West 931-627-1917 kountrycrazy@gmail.com	1st Tuesday @ 7, Jackie's Country Kitchen 1578 Zinc Plant Rd, Clarksville
Music City	Wendell Baldwin 615-838-1490 wiggles1202@yahoo.com	1st Sunday @ 2, Skully's Old Hickory
Nashville	Jack Jones 615-579-4112 jdj32K@yahoo.com	3rd Wednesday @ 7, Full Throttle Old Hickory
Robertson County	Roland Verchota 615-533-6368 Verchotaw@bellsouth.net	1st Tuesday @ 7, Piggy Pit Springfield
Smith-Wilson- Stones River	Larry Binkley 615-417-5229 lb54panel@aol.com	1st Sunday @ 12, The Roost Lebanon
Sumner County	Jeff Hollins 615-808-1618 jlhollis@yahoo.com	3rd Thursday @ 7, VFW Hendersonville
Upper Cumberland	Ron Erwin 931-879-3899	1st Sunday * Call for location
Wheels of Thunder	Bob Celmer 901-465-7381	1st Thursday @ 7, Panchos 717 N. White Station Rd., Memphis

# **Director's Column**

Welcome riders! We are finally at the end with a pandemic behind us. In this new age in 2021 things are different. But, after being cooped up for a year, we can now get out and enjoy ourselves again and what a relief. First of all, I'd like to welcome all the new active, supportive members to CMT/ABATE INC. Also, I would like to thank the new members that have joined our organization and welcome back some past members. Our; organization has changed over the last few years and is looking for a brighter future. Events are starting to pick up with the first rodeo on Mother's Day weekend for Upper Cumberland; check out their flyer. Also there's word of the Southern Thunder Rally coming back this fall up at Red River;

watch for their flyer. Plus they should have an update for their Facebook page for the event. If I get any more information on it I'll be sure to post it for everyone to see in the newsletter. Charter Directors should be sending their flyers into the newsletter; so stay in touch to see what's going on. A Call to Action letter has been posted on our website as well as the Facebook page; make sure you check it out. Get in touch with your Senators and Representatives and ask if they will cosponsor our bills. Our website is getting a lot of traffic along with people signing up straight from the website and to renew their memberships. This is working out great and making it easy for everyone to be able to sign up without having to try to find a tri-fold or get in contact with someone to see how they can sign up. For those who want to

sign up, just go to www.cmtabate.com/ shop and choose your membership; and it's that easy. Check out the rest of this newsletter for more updates and information on what else is going on and I'll see you all out on the road here soon. Ride safe and ride free.

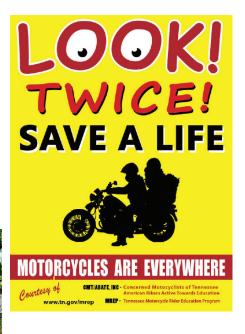
#### Scott Smith CMT/ABATE INC Corporate Director



#### Asst. Director's Column

To: All CMT/ABATE members. The warm weather is here; get your bikes all serviced, cleaned up and polished, and let's ride some this year. Even though the legislative session will end soon our Helmet bills are still very much alive and will be presented at the opening of next session. Till then spread the word if you need someone to come talk to a group about what is going on, let Poindexter or myself know; we will try to be available. We are working on Insurance for our events and should have some news soon. I hate to see us have to cancel the Rodeos again this year; so keep your fingers crossed. I was unable to make the last "Don't Ride Fried" Carnival at the Spring Thaw so thanks to those who could make it and made it a success. I understand we got some new members and got the word out about our Helmet Bills. GOOD JOB TO ALL. That's about all I have for now so Ride Your Own Ride everybody. Joel Jernigan Assistant Corporate Director



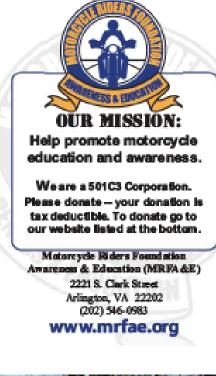


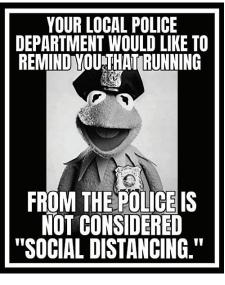
As we end week 2 of the lockdown, I've been thinking about Osama Bin Laden. He was stuck in his house with three wives for five years. I'm beginning to wonder if he called in those Navy Seals himself.













Annual Individual Membership \$35

- Annual Joint Membership \$60
- □ Annual Sustaining Membership \$100
- Annual Industry Council Membership \$100

Motorcycle Riders Foundation PO Box 250 Highland, IL 62249

It's time you did something more to protect your rights! Join and Support Motorcycle Riders Foundation... New Renewal Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

- □ Please Check if you are a US Citizen
- $\hfill\square$  Check here to NOT receive Patches and Pins
- Check here to NOT receive MRF Email Alerts
- □ Check here to receive MRF Reports electronically (email)

- □ 3-Year Individual Membership \$95
- 3-Year Joint Membership \$140
- □ Sustaining Membership Club \$100
- □ Freedom Fighter Donation \$10 \$25 \$\_

Phone: 202.546.0983 www.mrf.org

mrfoffice@mrf.org

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Card Number	CVV
Expiration Date	
Signature	Date



#### MRF Home Page | Join the MRF | Conference Info | More News from D.C. | Find Your State MRF Rep

#### MRF State Rep Report -

"When you're surrounded by people who share a passionate commitment around a common purpose, anything is possible. Howard Schultz."

Why do we do what we do?

It would be easier to stay at home and watch TV. I could save money if I didn't pay for membership dues, contribute to fundraisers or attend events. And we all could gain back a lot of extra time if we stayed away from all these meetings and activities. But each of us has chosen to give up the comfort of home, to spend a little extra cash, and to part with some of our valuable time and energy. Why?

For me, it started when I found where a local ABATE chapter was meeting. I had heard about ABATE, and wanted to join to support them in the fight to keep Illinois helmet-free. Then I found that they threw some great parties and events, and started attending those. Had some good times and made some friends. As those friendships grew, ABATE became like a big family. A bit dysfunctional at times (I remember an early chapter meeting that actually devolved into a fistfight between board members), but a family none the less. It didn't take long before I was convinced (bamboozled?) to take a leadership position on the chapter board. And for nearly 20 years I filled various roles in ABATE of Illinois. Then I moved to Tennessee and joined CMT/ABATE. Not being one to sit on the sidelines for long, I soon took the role of MRF Rep for Tennessee, a position I have held for 5 ½ years. All of this is interesting background, but it doesn't answer the question...Why?

It may have started as support for the fight against helmet laws. The parties and runs made it fun. And the friendships and sense of "family" brought me closer. But what really tied it all together was a sense of purpose. We have a cause that I believe in – the fight for our rights as motorcyclists. And those rights are constantly under attack. Whether it is helmet laws, profiling of motorcyclists, or recognition of motorcycles in the design of self-driving cars, these are all current issues that impact us as motorcyclists. I see the danger to our ability to ride like we want to, and even after 30 years I still want to be part of the fight to protect our freedoms. CMT/ABATE and the MRF are critical to that fight, with the primary

purpose of these two organizations being to fight to protect the rights of motorcyclists, on the State and National levels respectively. It's a purpose I support wholeheartedly and I am willing to give up some of my comfort, my money and my time to pursue that purpose. How about you? What are your reasons for being a part of CMT/ABATE and the MRF? Do you support our purpose enough to step into a more active role? Have you sent a letter or made a call to your State Senator and Representative on our current helmet bill? Are you willing to take a leadership role in your local Charter? Can you help expand our influence by recruiting your friends as new members of both CMT./ABATE and the MRF? Are you doing all that you can do to support our purpose to preserve your own right to ... ... Ride Free, - - Ed



Ed Domine MRF State Rep CMT/ABATE ed.d@juno.com







Paid Advertisement

#### MAKE A DIFFERENCE. SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION THAT SUPPORTS YOU!! Our hearts and minds are in the right place, but our bank account is nearly empty. HELP TODAY!!

	BE A TENNESSEE MOTORCYCLIST <b>BOOSTE</b> CMT/ABATE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT AND V <i>THANK YOU!</i>		BASIC BOOSTER \$10 BRONZE BOOSTER \$25 SILVER BOOSTER \$50
CMT ABATE Tounessee	CMT/ABATE, Inc. 242 West Main St. #195, Hendersonville, TN 37075	Address _	GOLD BOOSTER \$100 OTHER \$ *You can also be a booster and pay online with PayPal at
www.cmtabate.com		State	Zip

**Editor's Note:** All information for the newsletter has to be sent electronically by the **10**<sup>th</sup> of each month or it will not make it into the next edition of the newspaper. It **MUST** also be in electronic format! Please email your submissions to: **keeblersg@yahoo.com**. Did we miss something or make an error? It was not intentional. Please keep us informed. Send event dates, articles, minutes, **pictures** 

etc. to **keeblersg@yahoo.com**. That being said, I am **BIG** on photos, I want more photos not only from events but of our members out there riding!

**CMT/ABATE**, Inc. is not a "Biker Club", but a non-profit, political organization that was formed to preserve freedom and safety for all Tennesseans who enjoy motorcycling. Our major goals are to modify existing laws that are detrimental to motorcycle safety and enjoyment, and to enact new legislation in support of all motorcyclists who ride in Tennessee. If you are concerned about preserving personal freedom and motorcycle safety, please join us.

# 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS **CMT/ABATE OF TENNESSEE**

#### **CHARTER EVENTS CALENDAR**

#### May 2021

May 15	Upper Cumberland Liberty Rally and	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Points Rodeo								1
June 5	DHH Bike and Tattoo show							
June 11	Upper Cumberland Barbarossa's	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
June 12	SWSR Police Dep. Sine Day	SWSR/UpCo		RoCo				
June 18	June Bug Boogie	MuCi		MoCo		WOT		
June 26	Music City Cookout	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
June 20	Music city cookout							Liberty
Luby 1E	Kantuaku Rika Pallu							Rodeo
July 15	Kentucky Bike Rally	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
July 17	Upper Cumberland Memorial Ride					SMCo		
					Nash	DHH		
Aug. 27 Rodeo	Southern Thunder Rally and Points	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		CaFo 30	31					
Sept. 11 Sept. 17	Robertson Co. Memorial Ride SWSR Finals Rodeo	ļ						·

Oct. 30	DHH Toy Run
Dec. 4	Robertson Co. Toy Run
Dec. 11	SWSR Dirty Santa Christmas Party





ABATES PAGE OF SERVICES

"ABATE members helping ABATE members"

**Robins Nest Tattoos** Hilham, TN 931-265-1972

Handgun Carry Permit Class 615-473-6493

Midtenn Motorcycle classes Midtennmotorcycle.com

Family BBQ (Catering) Dickson 615-521-1481

If you have a business or service you would like listed here, please email publisher@cmtabate.com and we'll list it!

						•			
June 2021									
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
		1	2	3	4	5			
		RoCo				DHH Bike &			
		MoCo		WOT		Tattoo			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
SWSR/UpCo					UpCo	SWSR			
MuCi					Barbarossa's	Police Sine Day			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
				SMCo	June Bug				
			Nash	DHH	Boogie				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
						MuCi			
						Cookout			
27	28	29	30						
CaFo									

\*\*\*\*\*\*

# **ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER**

Do you know a business that could benefit from some affordable advertising to motorcycle enthusiasts each month? Tell them about our newsletter. Full Page—\$130/mo. Half Page—\$70/mo. Quarter page— \$45/mo. Business Card—\$20/mo. If interested, please contact the CMTABATE

office at info@cmtabate.com or call 615-566-9936 Deadline is the 10th of the month § for the

following month's issue. Ad payments are non-refundable. A typesetting fee may be charged for non-print ready ads. Please forward artwork in jpeg format if possible to newspaperabate@gmail.com

#### MUSIC CITY

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM by Glenn and he led us in the pledge and a prayer.

Update on Wendell he is at home but tired he is going thru therapy 5 days a week.

Joel gave update on the helmet bills we are getting all the sponsors together and making sure nothing gets rushed or lost in the rush.

They will probably be presented at the beginning of next session.

Liberty Rally is happening with or without the points Rodeo. Let's get out and support our brothers and sisters in other charters.

Don't forget membership drive and cookout on May 22nd at Cedar Hill Park Shelter #3. Don't forget the charter with the most new members gets a gift card at the next BOD.

Poindexter and I will be calling a meeting for the license plate committee in the near future. Get your art work together. We have insurance in the works for the STR and looking good to go on as planned. M/Joel S/Vista to adjourn Ride Your Own Rode

Joel

#### **ROBERTSON COUNTY**

Our meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at The Pit in Springfield at 7:00pm. Roland thanked everyone for being there. Please keep George Mooneyhan in your prayers. His brother James passed away unexpected. Johann went over the legislative. Roland won 50/50. We are hoping to have STR this year the third weekend in August at Red River, so mark your calendar. Everyone stay safe, and hope to see you all soon when things get back to normal. Thanks! Connie Jones

#### SMITH /WILSON /STONES RIVER

SMITH/WILSON/STONES RIVER APRIL MEETING

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY LARRY 1:30 PM

The pledge was led by Peyton Binkley. Mike Binkley led us in a word of prayer. Larry performed the roll call all officers present except for Kim, wishing her speedy recovery.

Wanda read minutes from last meeting, accepted and approved.

Quint Reece addressed the charter of why he is stepping down as Sgt. at Arms. James Sullivan nominated Mike Geekie, and David Marlin nominated Mike Binkley. Mike Geekie was nominated to replace Quint.

old Business- we were informed that as of this date we are still unable to obtain insurance for events and rodeo's. So, for now rodeo's are on hold.

The discussion of the broomstick tournament that was tabled last month upon securing a place to hold it is taking place. Wanda spoke to Helenbak and they have given us their permission to hold the event there.

Date was discussed; MAY 15, 2021 was decided on.

Registration will begin at 1:00pm and tournament to start at 2:00pm. A big shout out to Bill and Loretta Lunman who donated \$100.00 to buy suppplies needed for the broomstick tournament. Harold and Wanda volunteered to pick up broomsticks needed and were given the donated money. It was suggested to have a chili cookoff with the event. It was brought up to also hold a bike show that day. This was tabled to next meeting.

Darlene announced the details of the New Year's Kickoff party next year. The date has been set to January 15,2022.Make your reservations now to get the discounted rate. Call the hotel direct and mention you are with CMT/ABATE.

#### TO ALL INTERESTED IN SAVING LIVES OF MOTORCYCLISTS:

These banners are available, for free, to any business or organization willing to display them for one year, along any State Highway. We have a contract which explains the requirements for display—either on your building or mounted on marine grade plywood with marine grade glue as a display sign. There is a stipend that will pay for supplies. The banners are 4' by 8'. Rubberized laminate on canvas type cloth. Weather-ready. CALL CAROL SIMPSON 615-944-9797 OR SEND HER AN EMAIL csfreedom@aol.com to discuss possibilities of you helping to save lives!!!!

I would gladly approve a proof before printing. Thank you. Carol



Membership- Happy Birthday Robert Geekie April 28! Renewals- Ryan Sullivan and Gary Hensley

Welcome new members- Sandra Grisham and Michael Modrall. Products- working on shirt design and orders were taken. Legislative- Shout out to Meashy and Sammy for helping Carol Simpson with the Don't Ride Fried Carnival. Thank you both. Darlene announced the June BOD meeting will be held here at the Roost. Scott is wanting us to have a camping weekend with good food and great friends, The BOD is open for anyone to attend. The meeting will be held June 13th. We will also be having a ride that Saturday.

ATTENDANCE; 31 plus members Meeting was called to adjournat 2:15. Easter Egg hunt followed, kids had a great time. Ride Safe everyone. MAY IS MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH

IT WAS A QUIET MONDAY ORNING IN SEPTEN REN S BO **THE YEAR 2020** 



(202) 546-0983

www.mrfae.org

education and awareness are crucial in enhancing rider safety. No one is more concerned with rider safety than riders themselves, and obviously those best

Motorcycle Riders Foundatio Awareness & Education (MRFA&E) was established to promote motorcycle awareness and education due to an ever-increasing rider population. Motorcycle riders and activist have long recognized that motorcycle ride

suited to educate newer riders are veteran riders.



Want to be a part of this amazing organization?

Fill out the application below & submit with membership dues to the CMT/ABATE office.

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member Member Numb		enewal				
Couple Associa Junior \$ Lifetime	mber \$30 Member \$40 te \$10	300				
Change of Add PLEASE PRINT ( Name:	CLEARLY					
1						
State:	Zip:					
Phone:						
Email:						
	Charter You Would like to Join:					
Are you a Registered Voter? Yes No						
How would like to receive your newsletter? Email US Mail						
	Please mail to: <i>CMT/ABATE, Inc</i> 242 West Main Hendersonville,	St. #195	5			

615-566-9936





CONTACT:

Legislative Director

Paul "Poindexter" Gordon

Paulgordon127@yahoo.com

For Release: February 28, 2021

# LET FREEDOM ROLL!!

**CMT/ABATE, INC.** HAS NEGOTIATED A FREEDOM OF CHOICE BILL IN THE TN LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE TO WEAR A HELMET ON MOTORCYCLES FOR ADULTS.

# HB 903, SB 1536

SUCCESS IS VERY LIKELY, BUT ONLY IF YOU WORK TO MAKE IT A VICTORY.

THE ONLY WAY THE LEGISLATIVE TEAM OF CMT/ABATE, INC CAN SECURE VICTORY OF THIS LEGISLATION, IS TO HAVE GRASSROOTS DEDICATION AND ACTION.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER TO HELP. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A MOTORCYCLIST.

YOU DO NEED TO BELIEVE IN FREEDOM OF CHOICE.

YOU DO NEED TO BELIEVE THAT THE CITIZENS OF THE GREAT STATE OF TENNESSEE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

THE LEGISLATION THAT HAS BEEN FILED IN THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS A MAJOR DIFFERENCE THIS TIME AROUND. THERE IS NO FISCAL NOTE. That means that it is not required to go through the "black hole" finance committee in the House of Representatives or Senate. No fiscal note means there is no cost to the State of Tennessee to make this change in law.

#### This is a SAFETY BILL

One of the conditions included in the bill makes it a SECONDARY offense to stop someone for reasons of concern with the compliance with the new law. Thus, it will encourage riders who exercise their freedom of choice to ride without a helmet to be more cautious in their riding—ie: no speeding, or other law infractions. The number one cause of death in motorcycle accidents is impaired riding. DON'T RIDE FRIED!

#### CALL YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE AND SEMATOR TODAY!

You can find all the information on this bill and the phone numbers and/or emails of your legislators at www.capitol.tn.gov. There is a search engine on the home page-find your legislator by typing in your address. Easy. You can look for the bill by the numbers.

#### HB 903 and 8B 1563

Take five minutes to explain why you support the legislation and ask the legislator to sign on as a cosponsor. The more cosponsors, the better the chance of passage. Email our legislative director of the outcome of your contact. Thank you for beloing to secure Freedom of Choice.

#### Suggestions and Tips for Contacting your Tennessee State Legislators Regarding House Bill 903, Senate Bill 1563 Freedom of Choice for use of wearing Motorcycle Helmets

#### THE BILL and LOCATING INFO ABOUT YOUR LEGISLATORS

The language of this bill can be found at www.tn.capitol.gov. A very user-friendly website. Please read the bill prior to contacting your State Representative and State Senator, whose contact information can also be found on the website. Much info about your elected legislators can also be obtained from your County Election Commission located at your county seat, either by phone or in person.

#### THE TASK

All Tennessee residents who support this legislation should contact their State Representative and State Senator as soon as possible. The 112th General Assembly is near the end of being in session for 2021. All unaddressed legislation will "lay over" until the General Assembly reconvenes for the second year of its tenure in January 2021. During the several months of recess of session in 2021, the Legislative team of CMT/ABATE, Inc., will work with the bill's sponsors, Rep. Clay Doggett and Sen. Kerry Roberts to pursue passage of the legislation, along with keeping is touch with ALL cosponsors. The constituent supporters of this legislation MUST contact their own legislators to ask for their support and co sponsorship of the bill and its passage into law.

CMT/ABATE. Inc is a grassroots, 401C organization that is nearing its 30th anniversary in its present incorporation and was formed as Concerned Motorcyclists of Tennessee in 1982.

No one is paid for leadership or committees, including our grassroots lobbyists.

ASSISTANCE IS NECESSARY FROM ALL WHO SUPPORT THESE LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS.

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#### TIPS FOR YOUR EFFORTS

1. Call your legislators. If you get voice mail, leave your name, your phone number, your address, and the message that you look forward to a return call in the next couple of days, and would like to discuss a **TRANSPORTATION** matter. Leave information of the hours that you are available, if you are not able to take calls while working. Be courteous and friendly. You might want to leave a sentence or two about yourself, but just confirm that you are a constituent. Bringing up "I am a voter" is not necessary. Your legislators represent you, whether you vote or not. If you have met with them in the past, you might bring that to their attention, if it was a helpful situation.

2. When you actually have your legislator on the phone, ask them if they have about ten minutes to discuss your interests. You can also ask them if they would rather meet you at a local coffee shop and talk in person for about 15 minutes. This is a very positive, especially if there are two/four of you that would like to get together with your Representative or Senator. At this time, you should let them know that you have many interests in the work of the State Legislature, but the focus of your visit is HB 903 and SN 1563.

3. **"The Pitch"**. Write down three reasons you want the legislator to support the Helmet Use Modification Bill, so you don't get "off track" and forget one of your three BEST REASONS". Start your conversation with "niceties", but only for 2-3 minutes. Both your time and theirs are valuable. Keep your phone call/meeting with the legislator to ten or fifteen minutes, unless they warm up to you and want to have more friendly conversation. VERY often, they will have a "biker story" to tell you!!! Many of our legislators are motorcyclists, or have owned bikes in their past. (If you want to discuss "reasons" for passing the legislation, you can contact either of CMT/ABATE, Inc. volunteer lobbyists at their emails listed below. You might want to ask them to call you on the phone, & they will send their number to you.)

4. THANK THEM ENTHUSIASTICALLY, EVEN IF THEY DO NOT SUPPORT THIS LEGISLATION. THEY ARE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND HAVING GOOD CONTACT WITH THEM CAN BE HELPFUL IN MANY INSTANCES. If they tell you they need to think it over, ask when you can call them back or see them again to "follow up".

5. Within two days, send them an email, reminding them of your phone call/meeting, and reiterate the high points. Thank them AGAIN.

6. Report the outcome of your phone call/message to the CMT/ABATE, Inc. lobbyists, and if you would like for them to make a follow up contact on the behalf of your efforts and the outcome.

#### THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH THIS IMPORTANT TASK

#### CMT/ABATE, Inc. volunteer lobbyists: Paul "Poindexter" Gordon : paulgordon127@gmail.com Joel Jernigan: jrjern@yahoo.com

# Motorcycle Riders Foundation



12TH ANNUAL MICHAEL "BOZ" KERR

# May 18, 2021

Join fellow riders from across the country to help educate lawmakers on the issues that impact your right to ride!

ΊΟΝΔΙ

TORCYCLISTS'

DAY

Pre-event briefing May 17, 2021 Event May 18, 2021

Governor House Inn, 6650 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church, VA 703-532-8900, room rate \$89 (cut-off date April 27) Clarion Hotel, 6633 Falls Church, Arlington, VA 703-532-9000, room rate \$125 (cut-off date April 27)

Pre-register at www.mrf.org (by April 27)

Sponsored by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation www.mrf.org | 202-546-0983 Pre-register and order your shirt TODAY and it'll be available when you get to Washington (Multi-sizes available) Short Sleeve \$20.00, Long Sleeve \$25.00 C)

Short Sleeve and Long Sleeve available

Sponsored by

# ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER

Do you know a business that could benefit from some affordable advertising to motorcycle enthusiasts each month? Tell them about our newsletter. Full Page—\$130/mo.

Half Page—\$70/mo. Quarter page— \$45/mo.

Business Card—\$20/mo.

If interested, please contact the CMT/ABATE office at **info@cmtabate.com** or call **615-566-9936** Deadline is the 10th of the month for the

following month's issue. Ad payments are non-refundable. A typesetting fee may be charged for non-print ready ads. Please forward artwork in jpeg format if possible to newspaperabate@gmail.com





Free Rider Advantage Card 24/7 Accident Hotline Free Legal Advice

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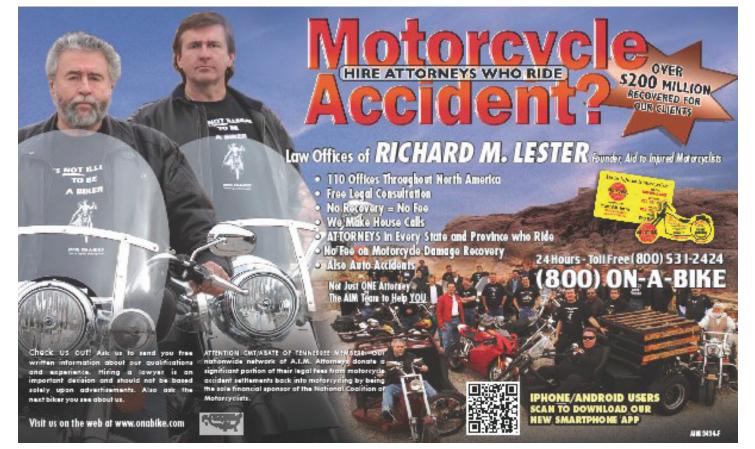
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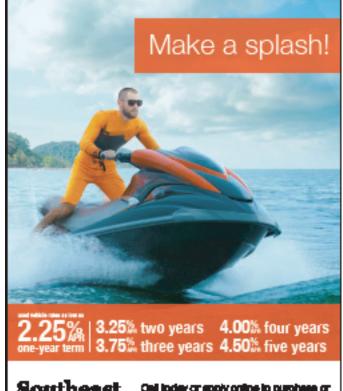


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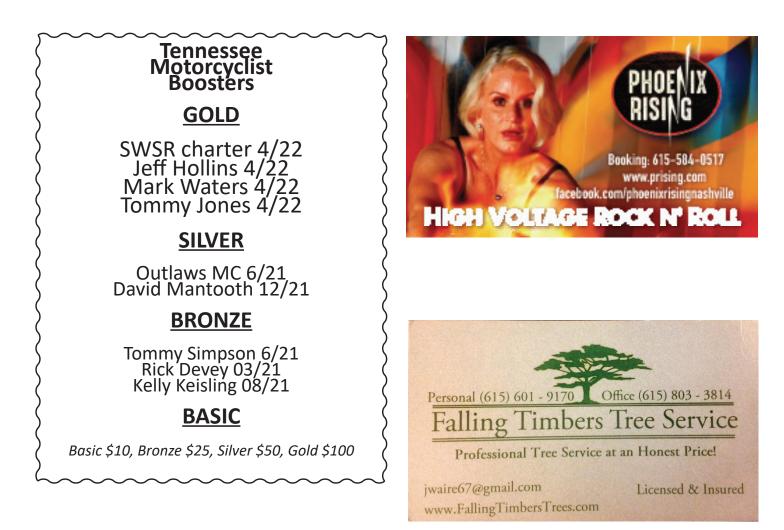


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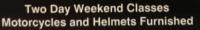
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#### THANK YOU

## TENNESSEE MOTORCYCLE RIDER EDUCATION PROGRAM AND TN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

FOR AT LEAST 14 YEARS, CMT/ABATE, INC. HAS BEEN THE RECIPIENT OF SAFETY AND AWARENESS GRANTS, GARNERED THROUGH THE TENNESSEE MOTORCYCLE RIDER EDUCATION PROGRAM. THE ANNUAL GRANTS HAVE RANGED FROM \$1400 per year to \$55,000 per year. CMT/ABATE, INC WAS REQUIRED TO PRESENT A GRANT APPLICATION EVERY YEAR, OUTLINING HOW THE MONEY WOULD BE SPENT. WE WERE NOT ALLOWED TO PAY ANYONE FOR THEIR TIME, AND ONLY MINIMAL REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL. WE HAVE HAD DOZENS OF DIFFERENT PROJECTS OVER THE YEARS.

# MUCH APPRECIATION FOR THE FUNDS AND FAITH IN OUR ABILITY TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF LOOK TWICE SAVE A LIFE

AND

DON'T RIDE FRIED.

SPECIAL FOCUS OF APPRECIATION TO LONG TIME RIDER EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR, JOHN MIL-LIKEN, WHO IS NOW RETIRED. MR. MILLIKEN IS AWESOME IN MORE WAYS THAN COULD EVER BE PUT IN THIS NEWSLETTER. IDEAS, SUPPORT, ENCOURAGEMENT, RESOURCEFULNESS, & GENTLE CRITICISM WHEN NEEDED.

# THANK YOU, JOHN MILLIKEN

!!! The Department of Safety has revised the rules and laws of the Rider Education Program. Safety and Awareness grants are no longer available.

We are looking for other sources of revenue to continue to promote Look Twice, Save a Live and Don't Ride Fried. EVERYONE's support and ideas are appreciated.

ANYONE WHO HAS PICTURES please send them to me for a "COLLAGE". Carol Simpson, Grant Coordinator. csfreedom@aol.com for address/phone.









#### A Trillion Here, A Trillion There

April 2, 2021

Former Illinois Senator Evert Dirksen is long credited with this quip about spending in Washington D.C., "A billion here, a billion there, pretty soon it begins to add up to real money." An updated 21st century version of that quote would replace billion with trillion!

In March Congress passed a \$1.9 trillion Covid relief bill. With the ink barely dry on that piece of legislation, conversations began about the next major bill, this one focused on infrastructure. As all MRF members know, Congress failed to pass a Highway Reauthorization bill in 2020 and extended the deadline to September of 2021. This was the bill in 2020 that had so many victories for motorcyclists, including wins on autonomous vehicles, motorcycle only check points and safety funding. It now appears likely that the Biden Administration and Congress will use the 2021 version of the highway bill as the mechanism to pass massive infrastructure spending before the end of the year.

President Joe Biden said Wednesday at an event in Pittsburgh, PA that his plan, "Will modernize 20,000 miles of highway, roads and main streets that are in difficult, difficult shape right now." Adding that, "I don't think you'll find a Republican today, in the House or Senate, who doesn't think we don't have to improve our infrastructure. They know China and other countries are eating our lunch. So, there's no reason why it can't be bipartisan again."

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg insisted that the Biden administration will move swiftly to reauthorize the highway bill, which is set to expire in a little over six months. "We've got a clock on everything we're doing," Buttigieg said. "We're not waiting until September in order to act. Conversations are taking place right now." Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi has set July 4th as a goal for passage of a House version of this legislation.

As we enter spring, congressional hearings are being scheduled about the scope and breadth of what this huge new bill will entail. We at the MRF will keep you updated as this enormous piece of legislation moves forward. We will fight to ensure motorcyclists priorities included in the 2020 version of the highway bill appear again in a 2021 version.

#### Where's the Money Coming From?

One thing that seems clear is that any infrastructure package is going to cost a lot of money. In 2020 the House of Representatives passed version of the highway bill topped \$1.5 trillion and President Biden's 2021 infrastructure plan is in the neighborhood of \$2.25 trillion. Of that \$2.25 trillion, about \$621 billion would go to items like road construction and repairs, mass transit improvements, passenger and freight rail modernization, investments in electric vehicles and airport upgrades. The remaining \$1.6 trillion or so would go to items including the expansion of broadband, rebuilding the electric grid, drinking water projects and a laundry list of other items.

So, while Congress and the President may have the appetite for big spending, where will those dollars actually come from?

Nearly all highway funding comes from the Highway Trust Fund (HTF). Taxes on gasoline and diesel, which are the main support of the HTF, are fixed in terms of cents per gallon (18.3 cents for gasoline and 24.3 cents for diesel), and do not adjust for inflation or change with fuel prices. The rates were last raised in 1993. These taxes no longer raise enough money to support the programs Congress has authorized. In the last highway bill, the FAST Act, \$70 billion was transferred from general government funds to the HFT to make up for the deficit. With the 2021 bill topping \$2 trillion, the deficit between what the HFT has and what Congress spends will almost certainly be greater than in past years.

To close this deficit, Congress could cut spending, increase revenue or borrow the money. It's clear that the first option of cutting spending is off the table. Both Republicans and Democrats have long championed spending on infrastructure as important to economic stimulation.

To raise revenue two main options have been debated. The first option is to raise the tax collected by consumers at the pump. On this topic U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg recently said that President Biden opposes raising the federal gasoline tax to pay for an infrastructure bill because it would violate his pledge to not raise taxes on middle-class Americans. "The President's made a commitment that this administration will not raise taxes on people making less than \$400,000 a year. That rules out approaches like the old-fashioned gas tax."

The second option being debated to raise revenue is creation of a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) tax. In its most basic sense, a VMT is tax based on how many miles a roadway user has traveled. Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO.), ranking member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, said he thinks adequate technology is available to implement a VMT tax. "We can do it at the pump if we just do a simple formula," he said, by using a national average for miles-per-gallon. "And it goes directly to the trust fund the same way it's being done now." Last week the U.S. Department of Transportation released a statement to reporters saying that the White House was not considering a VMT to fund infrastructure spending.

The most likely outcome is a direct transfer of funds from the U.S. Treasury to cover this proposed spending. In other words, revenue will be raised but through different tax increases or borrowing the money. Increases in the corporate tax rate as well as an increase on income taxpayers in the highest tax bracket have been floated as potential ways to generate revenue.

This spring and summer will see two monumental battles in Congress; first, how to improve our aging infrastructure and just as importantly, how to pay for it.



was established to promote motorcycle awareness and education due to an everincreasing rider population. No one is more concerned with rider safety than riders themselves, and obviously those best suited to educate newer riders are veteran riders.



Promote awareness and education in the motorcycle community to improve riders' safety.

We are a 501C3 Corporation. Please donate -- your donation is tax deductible. To donate, go to our website listed at the bottom.

Motorcycle Riders Foundation Awareness & Education (MRFA&E) 2221 S. Clark Street Arlington, VA 22202 (202) 546-0983

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#### Motorcyclist Advisory Council Bill Introduced

March 26, 2021

This week a bipartisan group of lawmakers introduced H.R. 2141, the Motorcyclist Advisory Council Reauthorization Act. The Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) was first established by Congress in 2005 and reauthorized in 2015. The MAC is responsible for providing advice and recommendations concerning infrastructure issues related to motorcyclist safety including barrier design, road design, construction, maintenance practices and the architecture and implementation of intelligent transportation system technologies. This is the second time that lawmakers have introduced a stand-alone bill to reauthorize the MAC. Last year the bill was turned into an amendment and added to the House passed highway bill. That amendment and this legislation make common sense changes to the MAC. Some of these changes include:

• Reauthorizing the MAC for six years. This ensures that the MAC has an established timeline for its work.

• Requiring that the MAC submit a biennial recommendations report. At a minimum three reports on motorcycle policy will now be required to be submitted to the Department of Transportation and Congress for review.

• Clarifying the membership of the MAC. This bill sets aside specific seats on the 12-member board for motorcycle riders and advocates. For example, one seat is reserved for each of the following, a national motorcyclist foundation, a national motorcyclist association and a national motorcycle manufacturing association.

The MRF would like to thank lead sponsor Congressman Mike Gallagher (R-WI) and original cosponsors Congressman Troy Balderson (R-OH), Congresswoman Julia Brownley (D-CA), Congressman Jared Huffman (D-CA), Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-WI), Congressman Chris Pappas (D-NH) and Congressman Don Young (R-AK) for their leadership on this important issue to motorcyclists.

MRF President, Kirk Willard said "The bill introduced by Rep. Gallagher ensures that the nearly 10 million bikers in America are included in the discussion surrounding our nation's transportation network. No conversation about our roads, bridges or infrastructure is complete unless all roadway users have a voice." About Motorcycle Riders Foundation The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.









# **BOOZE IT – LOSE IT!**

Deadline for submission will be the 10th of the month for next month's publication. <u>NO EXCEPTIONS!</u> Articles submitted after this date will be held for the next month, with the exception of time sensitive material. We welcome your opinions, comments, complaints and suggestions. Articles and photos pertaining to all things motorcycle are welcome. Photos must include, taken by, who is in the photo, what is happening in the photo, when was the photo taken and where was the photo taken at. We also need the authors contact information for verification purposes only. All articles will be edited for content, clarity, grammar and spelling. All ad copy must be sent to the editor at keeblersg@yahoo.com All ad payments should be sent to the main office at 242 West Main St. #195, Hendersonville, TN 37075. Include the ad you're paying for and how long paid ad will run.